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20 April 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: NIE 22-59: The Outlook for France

1. This estimate was scheduled as part of the regular Estimates Program. The coordination process was lengthy and interrupted at one point for several days to await the results of de Gaulle's press conference late in March.

2. The paper was prepared for final presentation to the USIB last week. However, the Army principal, General Willems, took such strong exception to certain paragraphs that it was removed from the agenda.

3. As a result of a meeting on 20 April all but one reservation by the Army and one by the Air Force representatives on paragraph 2 have been removed from the text. The Army objects to the singling out of the military as "a most important element" in the coup of May 13. It also objects to the use of the phrase "established institutions" in line 4, and believes this should be adjusted to read "discredited institutions." The Air Force concurs on this second point.

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